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AP FROM PRESS ASS'N

PROUD AS IOWANS WITH PRIZE-WINNING CORN, ARABS SMILE OVER A FAT BANANA CROP

These stems were grown near Jericho, 820 feet below sea level. Near the ancient Hebrew city in Palestine's deep Jordan trench stands a modern Arab village (Bulletin No. 1).

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Bulletin No. 1, October 20, 1947

United Nations Proposes Palestine Partition

TURMOIL in the Holy Land reached new heights recently when the United Nations announced a suggested plan to divide Palestine into Jewish and Arab portions. The Arab world threatened to retaliate if this division is effected, and the British stated that they might withdraw from the country if the United Nations solution does not meet with the full approval of Arab and Jew.

The partition would create a seven-piece checkerboard pattern in a small territory which contains an unusual number of contrasting regions.

Jewish Area Contains Largest Ports

In an area less than one-third that of Indiana, the Palestine panorama unrolls across green valleys and barren deserts, torrid coastal plains and cool interior hills. Along the eastern border with the Arab state of Trans-Jordan, the famous Jordan River flows through a great rift valley. The river's Dead Sea outlet is the lowest spot on earth—1,290 feet below sea level.

The Jewish portion of Palestine under consideration by the United Nations would be divided into three scattered parts. Its broad central region along the eastern Mediterranean coast resembles southern California in climate and production, and contains the country's largest and most modern ports, Tel Aviv and Haifa.

In the northeast, the Jewish state's second suggested fragment covers the fertile and developing farm area around the upper Jordan, as well as the Lake Galilee famous in Biblical history. In these areas most of the Zionist agricultural colonies (illustration, next page) have been established.

The third section, the triangular southern half of Palestine, is mostly scrub and desert. It is now inhabited by wandering Arab tribes estimated to number only about 60,000.

Galilee Divided Between Factions

The proposed Arab state—somewhat smaller than the Jewish portion—also has three parts. It includes a narrow coastal strip in the south, approximately the area inhabited by the Biblical Philistines. In this area lies the second-ranking Arab city of Gaza, in which the Bible placed Samson's destruction of the temple.

Another and broader patch of Arab land would be the fertile, well-watered, and scenic region of Western Galilee that reaches to the Mediterranean in the north. The port of Acre, often conquered and reconquered during the Crusades, is in this section.

The main Arab portion, however, would be the country's wide, hilly heart land extending eastward to the deep trenches of the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea. In this latter section—where robed and turbaned shepherds still guard their flocks as in ancient times—lie such important

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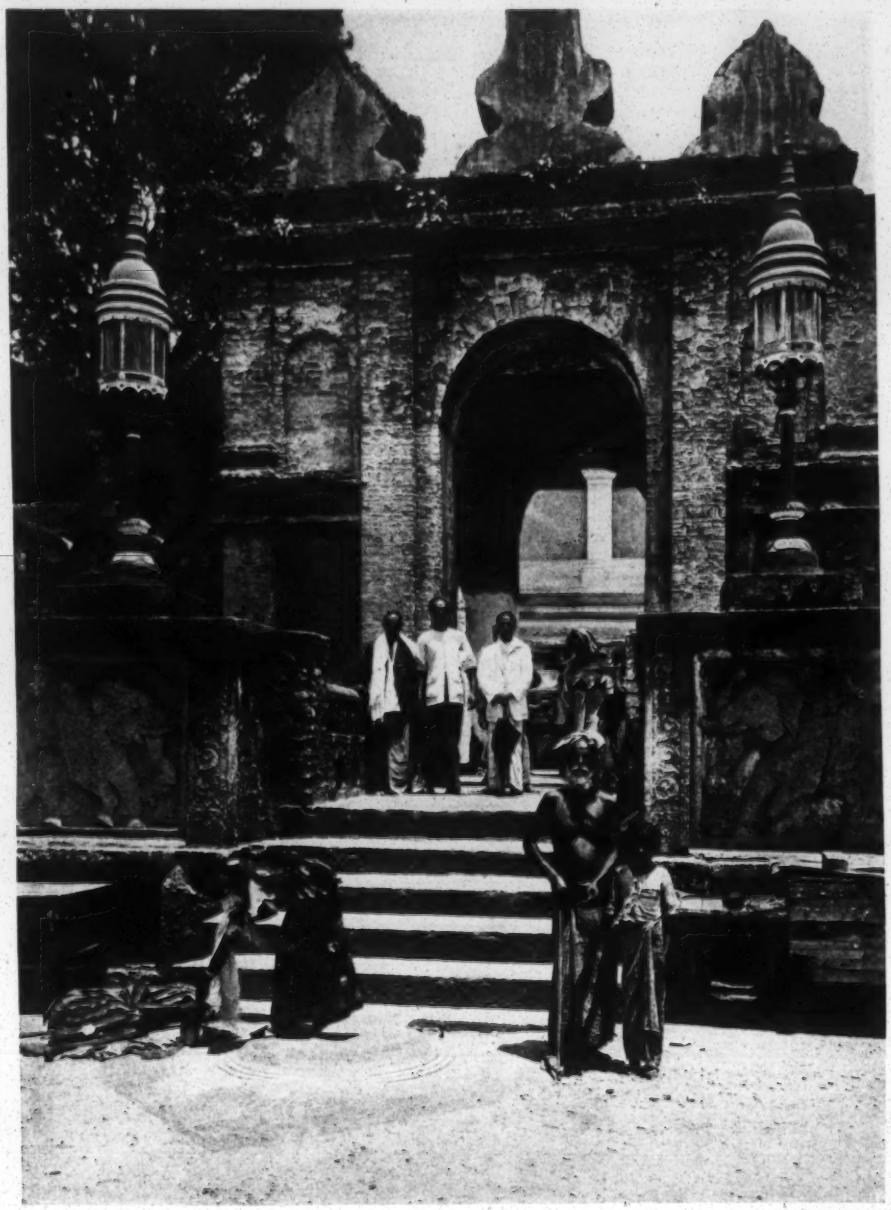

LIONEL GREEN

AS ELSEWHERE IN THE ORIENT, BEGGARS AT THE GATES OF A RICH TEMPLE ARE A FAMILIAR SIGHT IN CEYLON

The Temple of Buddha's Sacred Tooth encloses riches far beyond the imagination of the alms-askers. Every summer, for ten consecutive nights, the fantastic Perahera procession leaves this shrine and winds through the streets of Kandy with clashing of cymbal and beating of drum. Like a circus parade, it is led by richly bedecked elephants. Torch-bearing dancers in garish costumes follow, urged to greater efforts by nearly the entire population of this ancient hill capital of the Sinhalese (Bulletin No. 5).

Bulletin No. 2, October 20, 1947

Santos Coffee Port Fills World Coffeepot

THE Brazilian city of Santos is the port that coffee built. As the world's foremost coffee-shipping point, Santos handles about three-quarters of Brazil's export crop, which in 1946 totaled more than 15,000,000 bags.

Santos comes naturally by this honor, for the State of São Paulo in which it is situated has about half of Brazil's coffee trees—perhaps a fourth of the world coffee acreage. The state capital, also called São Paulo, stands on a plateau about 35 miles inland from Santos.

Electric Power Plentiful

The coffee business converted centuries-old Santos into a city of broad clean streets lined with modern office buildings, apartment houses, and handsome homes. Its beaches, backed by resort hotels, make Santos a popular vacation spot. The population is about 180,000, a tenth that of the city of São Paulo.

Bags of coffee flow down to Santos from the plateau, 2,700 feet higher than the city, in an almost continuous stream. Water rushing down from the same plateau in five great pipes supplies the city with electric power. The 380,000-horsepower plant is Brazil's largest hydraulic development.

This same water power operates an extensive system of conveyors along the Santos quay. Installed by a United States engineer, these belt conveyors do the work of hundreds of stevedores who formerly back-packed 132-pound coffee bags from train or warehouse to ship. Three out of every four bags of Brazil's exported coffee come to the United States.

The city has one of the best-equipped quays in the world for the rapid handling of cargoes. Loading and discharging can be done directly to and from railway cars. However, in 1945 the port was jammed because it could not unload more than 26 ships simultaneously.

Sixteen loading belts can now stow 12,000 coffee bags in ship holds in an hour. Similar belts convey the coffee to and from the great warehouses lining the four-mile quay. The warehouses have a combined storage capacity of 5,000,000 bags.

Cotton and Banana Production Increasing

Brazil grows more coffee than can be profitably marketed. In the eight years before World War II, more than 65,000,000 bags of coffee had to be destroyed.

Planters are increasingly turning from coffee to cotton, which São Paulo's plateau can produce abundantly. Brazil's 1938 cotton crop was equivalent to 1,000,000 American bales. Santos shipped four-fifths of it to world markets.

Santos also has become a great banana port. Plantations cover the coastal strip, some of which is reclaimed marshland. Drainage canals afford waterways over which bananas can be barged directly to ships.

More miles of railway spread fanwise into the interior from Santos than from any other Brazilian port. One line probes into the heart of

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Biblical points as Jericho (illustration, cover), Hebron, Shechem (Nablus), and the Wilderness of Judaea.

Jerusalem, holy site for Jews, Moslems, and Christians, is envisioned in the new plan as an international zone in the center of this largest Arab area. Neighboring Bethlehem would also lie in this zone.

The pipeline bringing oil from the rich Iraq fields to the Mediterranean outlet at Haifa runs almost entirely through the proposed Jewish state. In this general region, too, is the famed Plain of Esdraelon, an ancient battleground and the "Armageddon" of the Bible's Judgment Day prophecy. It is now a leading grain producer, and one of the most intensively cultivated of the new agricultural colonies.

NOTE: Palestine is shown on the National Geographic Society's maps of Europe and the Near East, and Bible Lands and the Cradle of Western Civilization. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For further information, see "Palestine Today," in the *National Geographic Magazine*, October, 1946; "American Fighters Visit Bible Lands," March, 1946; "Geography of the Jordan," December, 1944; "On the Trail of King Solomon's Mines," February, 1944*; "Bombs over Bible Lands," August, 1941; and "Change Comes to Bible Lands," December, 1938. *(Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00.)*

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, February 24, 1947, "Strife-Torn Haifa Palestine's Chief Port," and "Political Unrest Is Not New to Palestine," October 28, 1946.

G. ERIC MATSON

ON GALILEE SHORES, A JEWISH COMMUNAL FARM BLOOMS BESIDE A TREELESS ARAB VILLAGE

Bulletin No. 3, October 20, 1947

Baltimore, 150 Years a City, Reviews Growth

INSPIRATION of "The Star-Spangled Banner," home of the historic frigate *Constellation*, center of airplane-manufacturing, and one of the nation's chief ports—those are varied items in the past and present of Baltimore, Maryland, which this fall celebrates 150 years as an incorporated city.

Today's seventh city of the United States, whose 930,000 residents account for half the population of its state, was already a town of 20,000 in 1797, when it was incorporated. Its export trade, founded on tobacco and grain, was multiplying rapidly.

By the Dawn's Early Light

In that same year the 38-gun frigate *Constellation*, sister ship of "Old Ironsides," was built in one of the bays where the first frigate of the Continental Navy and scores of privateersmen of the Revolutionary War had been constructed. Among the privateers were the first of the Baltimore Clippers, world-famed for their speed. Today, the proud name has been adopted for Baltimore-built flying boats.

Fame immortal for Baltimore came in 1814 when the garrison of star-shaped Fort McHenry (illustration, next page) defended the harbor against British attack. Patriot Francis Scott Key watched this phase of the Battle of Baltimore while detained aboard a British ship in the harbor.

Inspired by the sight of the American flag still flying over the ramparts in the dawn of September 14 after a day and night of siege, Key penned the words of "The Star-Spangled Banner" on the back of a letter. His manuscript is preserved in the city's Walters Art Gallery. A monument honors the author's memory.

White Marble Steps

Baltimore has monuments by the score, rising in every section. From the 200-foot monument to George Washington, financed in 1810 by a lottery authorized by the Maryland legislature, came the name "the Monumental City." Shafts honor Columbus and Johns Hopkins, founder of university and hospital. A marker reminds passersby of Edgar Allan Poe. There are even monuments to Adam and Eve.

Marble finds its greatest use in the indefinitely repeated white steps on Baltimore's miles of brick row houses. Housewives scrub these steps to a gleaming polish every morning as part of their daily chores. Extensive parks within the city bring recreation within easy reach of all its people.

Civil war in the 1860's often broke the city's railroad transportation link with the Middle West. This link, shorter than that to ports farther northeast, was and is a vital factor in Baltimore's trade.

Downtown Baltimore was razed in 1904 by one of the worst city fires in the nation's history. But from such catastrophes the city rapidly recovered, achieving even higher levels of port trade.

World shipping today taxes the vast port's capacity. About 200,000

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South America and is planned eventually to cross the continent. Constant development of the São Paulo hinterland is expected to make the state's leading port more and more important.

NOTE: Santos may be located on the Society's map of South America.

For additional information, see "As São Paulo Grows," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for May, 1939.

LUIS MARDEN

"THEY'VE GOT AN AWFUL LOT OF COFFEE IN BRAZIL!"

These loaded tables would be a coffee toper's heaven, but they do not represent this Santos worker's daily share. He is a taster. He sips coffee all day long without swallowing a drop. If a certain bowl does not please him, he taps it, registering his disapproval of the lot it represents. He also tests the trays of beans for aroma.

Bulletin No. 4, October 20, 1947

Vanilla, Mexican Native, Tops Flavor List

BECAUSE bad weather on Madagascar has reduced the 1947 vanilla-bean harvest, Americans will get less of the natural bean vanilla during the next twelve months.

But as long as coal is mined and paper is made from wood, there need be no critical shortage of vanilla flavor. This popular taste, which leads all other flavors for giving savor to candies and cakes, can be produced from a number of materials which never grew on a vanilla vine (illustration, next page).

An Orchid That Works for a Living

Chemists have worked on vanillin, the part of the bean which contains the characteristic fragrance of the extract, for more than 70 years. They have found this pure chemical form of vanilla flavor in many and strange places. Spurred by wartime absence of the vanilla bean, which had come to the United States in large quantities from the remote Indian Ocean islands of Madagascar and Seychelles, chemists now produce vanillin from clove oil, coal tar, creosote, benzene, or the waste liquid left in the manufacture of sulphite pulp and paper.

Although most synthetic vanilla extracts are somewhat less expensive, the natural bean vanilla has resumed its prewar position at the top of the flavor market. It is billed as "pure vanilla" on the bottle label. The little pod of the world's only orchid that works for a living holds aromatic extras which are not contained in the vanilla flavor taken from a lump of coal.

The word vanilla is derived from the Spanish. It means "little pod." In each of the now widely scattered species of the vanilla plant, the little pod is preceded by a small yellow blossom which leaves no doubt that the plant belongs to the orchid family.

Like rubber, quinine, and the white potato, the vanilla bean moved to the Old World from an origin in the new. *Vanilla planifolia*, from which most commercial vanilla is produced, is a native of southeastern Mexico. In pre-Columbian times, the Aztec Indians sought it in the dense jungles of Central America. They used it to flavor chocolate—another native American.

Indian Ocean Islands Adopt Mexico's Fragrant Vine

The Spaniards took the vanilla plant home to Europe. By way of Spain, it eventually reached the tropical lands of the East. Its progress was greatly advanced a century ago when a Negro slave began hand-pollination of the flowers on the island of Réunion in the Indian Ocean.

Only since World War I have the Indian Ocean islands led in vanilla production. In recent normal years, nearly three-fourths of the supply has come from the humid north and east coasts of Madagascar and from the neighboring islands of the Comores, Seychelles, Réunion, and Mauritius.

Outstanding in quality and highest in price among the world's vanilla beans is the one-eighth and more of the crop that comes from

workers are on current payrolls of Baltimore's 2,000 factories. Iron and steel, clothing, meat packing, chemicals, aircraft, electrical goods, beverages, and ships top the list of manufactures.

Baltimore's history did not begin with its incorporation. Eighteen years ago the 200th anniversary of the city's 1729 founding was celebrated. More than a century before that John Smith visited the site of Baltimore during a cruise from Jamestown.

The Bureau of the Census reported last April that the population of the entire Baltimore metropolitan area was 1,306,000.

NOTE: Baltimore appears on the Society's map, Historic and Scenic Reaches of the Nation's Capital.

For further information, see "Maryland Presents," "Maytime in the Heart of Maryland" (10 color photographs), and "Old Line State Cyclorama" (22 color photographs), in the *National Geographic Magazine* for April, 1941*; "Chesapeake Odyssey," September, 1939*; and "Roads from Washington," July, 1938.

ROBERT F. KNIESCHE

A BRAWNY ARM OF BALTIMORE ALMOST PUSHES FORT MC HENRY INTO THE HARBOR IT ONCE GUARDED

The Patapsco River branch in the middle distance leads to the Maryland port's downtown section where, in 1814, practically the entire town lay. In that year this fort blocked the path of an English fleet sailing in from Chesapeake Bay to take the city. The "star-spangled banner" that inspired Francis Scott Key's anthem waved from a pole on the site of the present one.

Bulletin No. 5, October 20, 1947

Ceylon in Transition to British Dominion

THE British island of Ceylon, in process of attaining "near dominion" status, is scheduled next month to inaugurate its new constitution and open the first session of its house of representatives and senate. The cabinet already has been sworn in.

The lush tropical island just off the southern tip of India is a leading claimant to the world's championship of poetic names. In ancient times Ceylon was known as Lanka. The poet of the Indian epic *Ramayana* wrote of "green and glorious Lanka, garden of the sky." Since then, among other descriptive tags, Ceylon has been called the "Land of Dusky Leaves," "Island of Jewels," "Land without Sorrow," and "Dwelling Place of Lions."

Precious Stones Found

Most of the island's descriptive phrases grew out of its exceptional scenery—mountains and waterfalls, sculptured rice terraces, rhododendron gardens, and palm-fringed lagoons.

Ceylon's jewel title is earned by its pearl fisheries and gem pits. Gravel and sand give up sapphires, rubies, garnets, and other precious and semiprecious stones.

Lions, however, exist now only in old native legends. Instead, in the forests and jungles are wild elephants, leopards, monkeys, crocodiles, and cobras. A mysterious forest creature, with a weird, strangled cry in the night, is known as the Devil Bird by the natives. They believe it contains the tortured spirit of the dead.

Ceylon has been a British possession since 1796. It was made a crown colony, separate from India, as far back as 1802. During World War II the inland hill town of Kandy was the headquarters of the Southeast Asia Command. The harbor of Trincomalee, on the northeast coast, became a vital United Nations base. Ships laden with war supplies and troops replaced the heavy commercial traffic at Colombo (illustration, next page), the island's capital and cosmopolitan port on the west coast.

Mixed Racial Groups

Normally, there are about 10,000 civilian Britons in Ceylon, including officials, businessmen, tea and rubber planters. The more-or-less Eurasian "Burghers," whose ancestors were the early Portuguese and Dutch settlers, now approach the 40,000 mark. The native peoples number well over 6,000,000, in an area only slightly larger than the State of West Virginia.

The Sinhalese (Singhalese, Cingalese), by far the largest native group, came to the island from northern India centuries before Christ. Their ancient buried cities, like Maya ruins in Central America, long have fascinated scholars. Sinhalese men and women look alike in their national dress of long bright-colored sarongs. Some old-fashioned men still have long hair, rolled up in a back knot and topped by a crownlike tortoise-shell comb.

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southern Mexico, its native land. The next-largest portion comes from the islands of French Oceania centered at Tahiti.

On plantations, vanilla is started from cuttings of vines whose hardiness and bean quality have been proved. These are trained to grow around cross posts. The vanilla vine also grows on living trees to which it fastens itself by long aerial roots.

Toward the close of the flower's six blooming weeks, it is hand-pollinated. It then wilts, and six to ten long, slim pods develop. In five or six weeks these pods reach the full-size, unripe state which means they are ready for curing.

NOTE: Lands where vanilla is grown may be found on the Society's World Map.

See also, "Madagascar: Mystery Island," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for June, 1942.*

PAUL ALMASY FROM THREE LIONS

VERSATILE VANILLA DROOPS A DARK BROWN TASSEL FROM A POLE IN MADAGASCAR

Its fleshy stems tangled around a wooden prop, the vanilla plant, an immigrant from Mexico, makes itself at home in Madagascar. The largest portion of all the natural vanilla used comes from this French colony in the Indian Ocean. Fermented and dried, the beans encased in long slim pods produce the fragrant extract that adds flavor to many varieties of candies and cakes. It is even used in perfumery. The vanillin in the beans forms crystals which are soluble in oil and alcohol.

Unlike most Indians, the Sinhalese are Buddhists by religion. They have made a pilgrimage center of Kandy, where the noted Temple of the Sacred Tooth (illustration, inside cover) is situated. Buddhism lacks the caste distinctions of Hinduism.

Tea and Spices Major Exports

The Tamils, the second leading group, came from southern India, first as conquerors and more recently as laborers. They are mostly Hindus. The Moors, or Moormen, are Mohammedans, and for the most part are the island's fishermen, boatmen, and shopkeepers.

Ceylon's agricultural activities, which provide the people's chief livelihood, might add another descriptive phrase, "Land of Aromatic Products." The big tea plantations produce the major export crop, but cinnamon, cardamoms, cloves, and citronella oil are leading spices.

Rubber and coconut production also is important. Though much rice is grown, use of the land for the more important "money crops" has made it necessary for the Ceylonese to import considerable food.

NOTE: Ceylon may be located on the Society's map of India and Burma.

For additional information, see "Sigiriya, 'A Fortress in the Sky,'" in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1946; "Perahera Processions of Ceylon," July, 1932; and "Fishing for Pearls in the Indian Ocean," February, 1926.

A.B.C. PRESS SERVICE FROM BLACK STAR

IN THE PETTAH, NATIVE QUARTER OF COLOMBO, BULLOCK CARTS CONTEND FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY

Their owners make the thatch hoods from palm leaves and hang colored tassels from them. Though this street is wide, most Pettah thoroughfares are narrow and crowded. The European quarter has newer buildings, good roads, and parks. Colombo, Ceylon's political and economic center and chief seaport, was attacked by Japanese carrier planes in 1942. This westernmost thrust of Nipponese power was successfully repulsed by the British.